

FLD
719

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Greece	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED] 25X1A
SUBJECT	Reaction of Salonika Labor Leaders to Recent Labor Developments 25X1A	DATE DISTR.	22 Oct 1953
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED]	NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED]	REFERENCE NO.	RD
		REFERENCES:	[REDACTED] 25X1A

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE:

25X1X

1. The passing of two laws concerning the reorganization of IKA (Social Insurance Institution) and the discontinuance of separation pay for discharged employees of philanthropic agencies, has brought consternation to organized labor in Salonika. It is felt by Nationalist labor leaders in Salonika that the abolition of labor representation on the board of IKA does not serve any economic purpose, but is another attempt by the Government to restrict the power of labor. These same labor leaders feel that workers maintain IKA and, therefore, should have an important voice in its affairs. The Salonika Labor Center, and all agencies dependent upon it, sent cables protesting this action to various Government leaders.
2. The second law mentioned above is designed to relieve philanthropic institutions of a great financial burden. The law, while not deemed dangerous because of its present application, is feared because it sets a precedent which may well become accepted in all fields of work.
3. On 22 September the Union of Employees of Philanthropic Institutions staged a two hour protest strike. If the law is not changed, they intend to walk out on a strike of indefinite duration and will attempt to induce other unions to stage sympathy strikes.
4. Word has been received that the decision on the reunification problem of the tobacco workers' unions will take place during the GSEE (General Confederation of Greek Labor) plenum, scheduled to take place in Athens on 10 October. It is rumored among labor circles in Salonika that Fotis Makris, Secretary General of the GSEE, is willing to settle the problem in favor of the Tobacco Workers' Federation. This would mean that he would advocate the dissolution of the Nationalist counter-union "Omonia" and the reorganization of all tobacco workers within the Communist-dominated Pan-Tobacco Workers' Union. Reformist labor leaders in Salonika are unanimously opposed to this move because it constitutes a clear-cut victory for the Communists.

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	#x	ARMY	x	NAVY	x	AIR	x	FBI		AEC					

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY



25X1A

-2-

Although no decision has been taken as yet, the mood of these labor leaders indicates that the reformists will not follow GSEE's directions, but that they will stage a revolt against Makris which may well affect other fields in which disputes have arisen between GSEE and the Salonika Labor Center, but in which, until now, the Salonika Labor Center has followed GSEE.

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY